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# **Administrative Council Committee Reports**

## Bylaws Committee Report

**Chair:** Chris Trentelman, FL

**Liaison:** Sarah Garn

### ***2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE***

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Janine Malone, NC  
Sue Hughes, MI  
Barbara Cadwell, FL  
Robert Higgins, FL  
Carrie Cross, NE\*

Heather Petersen, CO  
Gaye McCabe, OR  
Peter Rothschild, WA  
Diane Nell, CA

\*New member(s) of the Bylaws Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To provide for the fair and equitable governance of the United States Dressage Federation.

#### **Goals:**

1. Recommend bylaw amendments as needed.
2. Present amendments to the USDF Board of Governors (BOG) General Assembly for ratification.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Recommend proposed bylaws amendments as needed.
2. Discuss and draft bylaws amendments as required by the USDF Executive Board, committees, and members to be presented to the BOG in the future.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

- The proposed bylaws amendments approved by the 2022 BOG were incorporated into the USDF Bylaws document.
- The revised USDF Bylaws document was posted on the USDF website and shared with USDF governance representatives.
- Discussed and approved bylaws amendments to be presented to the 2023 BOG for discussion and approval.

#### **2024 Objectives:**

1. Recommend proposed bylaws amendments as needed.
2. Discuss and draft bylaws amendments as required by the USDF Executive Board, committees, and members to be presented to the BOG in the future.

#### **Items to come before the Executive Board:**

1. The proposed bylaws amendments to go before the 2023 BOG.

## Group Member Organizations Committee Report

**Chair:** Cindi Wylie, FL

**Vice Chair:** Loretta Lucas, FL

**Liaison:** Jill Chamblin

### ***2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE***

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Maureen Penny Hawes, VA

Dr. Lisa Toaldo, NJ

Jeri Fuller-Matheny, KY

Donna Hammond, IA

Bobbi Lehman, AZ

Kathryn Lewis, WA\*

Michele Ng, CA

Carolyn Tice, CA

Dawn Mackenzie, MA\*

Jennifer Jarvis, TX

\*New member(s) of the Group Member Organizations Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To accelerate the growth and development of Group Member Organizations (GMOs) to broaden and strengthen the dressage community and increase access to education.

#### **Goals:**

1. To promote the education of GMO leadership.
2. To offer support and materials.
3. To provide a network of others with experience.
4. To administer the GMO awards.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Continued promotion of GMO education, programs, and networking.
2. Discuss ways to reach out to GMOs other than Facebook group and GMO eNews.
3. Choose topics for the 2023 GMO roundtable discussions and secure moderators.
4. Secure judges for the 2023 GMO Awards Program.
5. Continue to advance the development of the GMO trivia challenge.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

- Chose topics and secured moderators for GMO roundtables at convention.
- Secured judges for USDF GMO Awards Program.
- Provided first sets of questions for the trivia program into the last two GMO newsletters and announced winners.
- Selected pin design for GMO Volunteer Incentive Program.
- Selected GMO education topic and speakers for GMO education program, but supported the USDF Executive Board's decision to change session to SafeSport for GMOs.

#### **2024 Objectives:**

1. Continue promotion of GMO educational programs and material.
2. Choose topics and moderators for GMO roundtable discussions.
3. Request USDF Executive Board approval for GMO educational session at the annual convention, and provide suggestions for topic and lecturer.

4. Continue to provide questions quarterly for USDF GMO trivia challenge.
5. Make GMO Volunteer Incentive Program pins available to members that earn them.
6. Secure judges for USDF GMO Awards Program.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None

## Historical Recognition Committee Report

**Chair:** Jennifer Bryant, PA

**Liaison:** Chelsey Burris

### **2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE**

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Lauren Annett, PA\*

Bettina Longaker, VA

Anne Moss, PA

Jeanne Ahrenholz, SC

Roz Kinstler, FL

Charlotte Trentelman, FL

Roberta Williams, FL

Connie Davenport, OR

Annalucy Keller, ID

Terry Wilson, CA

\*New member(s) of the Historical Recognition Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To recognize and celebrate the rich heritage of dressage in America through education and promotion.

#### **Goals:**

1. Oversee and coordinate Hall of Fame, Lifetime Achievement Award, and Member of Distinction selection.
2. Work with USDF and assist in the development and selection of materials and criteria for the Roemer Foundation/USDF Hall of Fame building.
3. Gather and archive information on the heritage of USDF.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Nominate suitable candidates for the Hall of Fame, Lifetime Achievement Award, and Member of Distinction.
2. Provide input regarding content for the Roemer Foundation/USDF Hall of Fame.
3. Continue the concerted effort to collect historical information regarding the GMOs, acting as voluntary repository.
4. Continue recording interviews with the Hall of Fame inductees and Lifetime Achievement Award recipients for use in USDF educational resources, on the USDF website, and the National Education Center.
5. Create a “Meet the Committee” video for use on *YourDressage*.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

- Put forward Sally Davenport as USDF Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, and Beth Jenkins and Brook Irving-Martz as USDF Members of Distinction. All three were approved for recognition and will be honored at the annual convention.
- Created videos highlighting last year’s Hall of Fame, Lifetime Achievement, and Member of Distinction recipients for use on *YourDressage*, which were also shared across USDF’s social media pages.

**2024 Objectives:**

1. Nominate suitable candidates for the Hall of Fame, Lifetime Achievement Award, and Member of Distinction.
2. Provide input regarding content for the Roemer Foundation/USDF Hall of Fame.
3. Continue the concerted effort to collect historical information regarding the GMOs, acting as voluntary repository.
4. Continue recording interviews or other video content with the Hall of Fame inductees and Lifetime Achievement Award recipients for use in USDF educational resources, on the USDF website, and the National Education Center.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None

## Nominating Committee Report

**Chair:** Linda Mendenhall, MA

**Liaison:** Sarah Garn

### **2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE**

#### **2023 Regional Representatives:**

Region 1:	Lori Kaminski, MD	Region 6:	TBD
Region 2:	Molly Fine, IL	Region 7:	Paula Langan, CA
Region 3:	Barbara Cadwell, FL	Region 8:	Kate O'Connor, MA
Region 4:	Lin Nelson-Mayson, MN*	Region 9:	Alecia Daniel, TX
Region 5:	Dorothy Kapaun, CO		

\*New member(s) of the Nominating Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To procure quality candidates to govern the United States Dressage Federation.

#### **Goals:**

1. Secure nominations for regional Participating Member (PM) delegates and the USDF Executive Board.
2. Ensure that all GMO members are represented on the Board of Governors (BOG) by GMO delegates.
3. Educate the membership about the candidates and oversee the election process.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Procure nominations for PM delegates in all nine regions by April 15.
2. Procure nominations for Administrative Council, Technical Council, and Activities Council at-large director (ALD) by June 1.
3. Obtain GMO delegate and proxy appointments when designated by each GMO.
4. Oversee the election process.
5. Notify each GMO who fails to respond to delegate and proxy-holder requests that they lacked representation at the BOG.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

- GMOs who failed to respond to delegate and proxy-holder requests and lacked representation at the 2022 BOG meeting were notified.
- PM delegate nominees were secured in all nine regions and elections took place June 1-30. Election results were published in July.
- The following USDF Executive Board candidates were secured by June 1. Nominations for these positions are not accepted from the floor of the BOG.
  - Administrative Council ALD: Barbara Cadwell, FL (incumbent); Cindi Wylie, FL; Anne Moss, PA
  - Technical Council ALD: Sue McKeown, MA (incumbent); Janet Foy, CO
  - Activities Council ALD: Sue Mandas, OH (incumbent)



- Biographies and Q&A for USDF Executive Board candidates were posted on the USDF website and USDF convention website, Delegate Facebook Group, and were published in the September/October issue of *USDF Connection*.
- GMO delegate and proxy appointments are being secured leading up to the 2023 convention.

**PM Delegate Voting Returns**

	2022 Mailed	2022 Online	2022 Total % Return	2023 Mailed	2023 Online	2023 Total % Return
Region 1	0	640	21.925%	0	641	20.764%
Region 2	1	523	24.237%	0	533	24.194%
Region 3	0	542	19.233%	0	490	16.633%
Region 4	0	200	25.381%	0	214	27.089%
Region 5	0	212	21.545%	0	189	19.385%
Region 6	0	270	22.314%	0	310	25.726%
Region 7	0	300	17.094%	1	322	18.358%
Region 8	0	414	21.362%	0	372	19.507%
Region 9	0	255	22.078%	0	258	21.078%

*\*2022 = 21.343% of PMs voted; 2023 = 20.689% of PMs voted\**

**2024 Objectives:**

1. Procure nominations for PM delegates in all nine regions by April 15.
2. Procure nominations for the following USDF Executive Board positions by June 1, aiming for each position to have one or more qualified candidates: president, treasurer, and regional director in USDF Regions 2, 4, 6, and 8.
3. Obtain GMO delegate and proxy appointments when designated by each GMO.
4. Oversee the election process.
5. Notify each GMO who fails to respond to delegate and proxy-holder requests that they lacked representation at the BOG.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None

# **Technical Council Committee Reports**

## Competition Management Committee Report

**Chair:** Kevin Bradbury, MI

**Vice Chair:** Marinea St. Amand, WA

**Liaison:** Taylor Chism

### **2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE**

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Kathryn Grisolia, KY

Andrea Davenport, AL

Carlie Evans, FL

Debra Reinhardt, FL

Heather Petersen, CO

Michael Taylor, ID

Regina Antonioli, CA

Anita Jaffe, NY

Marilyn Kulifay, TX

\*There are no new members of the Competition Management Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To provide a network of competition managers and secretaries to promote quality and compliant dressage competitions.

#### **Goals:**

1. Provide competition management education.
2. Increase the number and quality of recognized competitions.
3. Review and communicate United States Equestrian Federation rule change proposals.
4. Provide the appropriate tools and processes for successful competitions.
5. Strengthen the communication between the Competition Management Committee and other committees, as well as the USDF office staff.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Assist new competition managers and secretaries through the mentor program.
2. Provide educational opportunities to competition management.
3. Review and address other issues relevant to competition management.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

- Held virtual education session on dressage sport horse breeding (DSHB) scheduling and scoring in June 2023 with 63 attendees. The video is now available online for USDF University credit.
- Assisted the Judges Committee with revisions to the “Guide for Scribes and Judges Checklist” regarding e-scribing.
- Created a working group which began revisions of *ShowBiz* and plans to create an educational video or series based on it.
- For the 2023 convention, planned an education session: “Moving up through the ‘Levels’ of dressage competitions – selecting the right level for your show.”

#### **2024 Objectives:**

1. Assist new competition managers and secretaries through the mentor program.
2. Provide educational opportunities to competition management.

3. Review and address other issues relevant to competition management.

**Items to come before the Executive Board: None**

## Freestyle Committee Report

**Chair:** Janet (Dolly) Hannon, CO

**Liaison:** Sharon Vander Ziel

**2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2  
Omaha, NE**

### 2023 Committee Members:

Jeanne McDonald, PA

Terry Ciotti Gallo, FL

Natalie Lamping, FL

Debra Reinhardt, FL

Joan Darnell, WA

Kari McClain, WA

Anne Howard, CA

Sarah Geikie, CT

Regina Cristo, NY

Ann Guptill, CT

Advisor – Anne Moss, PA

\*There are no new members of the Freestyle Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To promote freestyle and provide educational opportunities dealing with choreography, music and judging. To use musical rides to increase exposure and popularize freestyle, quadrille, pas de deux, and the sport of dressage.

### Goals:

1. Design and provide educational programs for freestyle, pas de deux, and quadrille for the general membership and for judge education.
2. Keep freestyle, pas de deux, and quadrille “Rules, Guidelines, and Definitions” and score sheets up to date and consistent for all three.
3. Coordinate with the Judges, Competition Management and Awards Committees.
4. Maintain a freestyle web page on the USDF website to increase exposure, as well as to create promotional activities and educational material for freestyle, pas de deux, and quadrille.

### 2023 Objectives:

1. Hold a Zoom freestyle roundtable for members, hosted by a panel from the Freestyle Committee.
2. Continue to address questions and concerns sent in by members.
3. Continue to promote freestyles through articles.
4. Continue to track quadrille and pas de deux rides at licensed competitions.
5. Discuss possible changes to the committee’s mission and goals.
6. Provide input on proposed rule changes that pertain to freestyles and judging freestyles.

### 2023 Accomplishments:

- The freestyle roundtable able webinar held January 25, 2023, was attended by over 300 members. Takeaways from the webinar were shared on *YourDressage*.
- Continuing Education (CE) in Freestyle Programs were held in Regions 1 and 9. Two licensed dressage judges received their USEF freestyle designations in 2023.
- At the time of this report, there have been no pas de deux or quadrille scores reported at licensed competitions for 2023.

- The Freestyle Committee answered many questions regarding freestyles from both riders and judges. Dolly Hannon, as chair, answers the questions sent into the office.

**2024 Objectives:**

1. Freestyle concerns will be addressed by a freestyle working group within the 2024 Judges Committee.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None

## Instructor/Trainer Development Program Committee Report

**Co-Chairs:** Lilo Fore, CA and Sarah Geikie, CT

**Liaison:** Katherine Robertson

**2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2  
Omaha, NE**

### **2023 Committee Members:**

Debbie Bowman, VA

Bailey Cook, NC

Kathryn Fleming-Kuhn, IL\*

Christopher Hickey, FL\*

Sarah Martin, FL

William McMullin, FL

Cathy Zappe, AL\*

Janet (Dolly) Hannon, CO\*

Kathy Simard, CO\*

Lendon Gray, NY\*

Ann Guptill, CT

Vicki Hammers-O'Neil, CT

Fern Feldman, CT

\*New member(s) of the Instructor/Trainer Development Program Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To promote the pursuit of excellence in dressage instruction and training.

### **Goals:**

1. To provide education from the grassroots to the professional level.
2. To provide access to online resources and learning modules.
3. To set instructor certification standards of proficiency.
4. To provide instructor certification opportunities.
5. To align the education of dressage participants at every level to the standards and levels of proficiency from Training Level through Grand Prix.

### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Discuss plans for a FEI level trainers conference in 2024.
2. Increase number of FEI instructor workshops and exam for 2023.
3. Increase exam opportunities for Training – Fourth Level.
4. Continue to evaluate workshop and pre-certification formats (education for all versus certification preparation):
  - Determine ways to engage GMOs in providing general education.
  - Review format to prepare instructors for certification.
5. Review of current examiner criteria and increase number of active examiners.
6. Continue to promote certified instructors via “Meet the Certified Instructor” columns in both the magazine and on social media.
7. Continue outreach to certified instructors to provide education articles and tips for the magazine and social media.
8. Continue to develop online education resources for instructors.

**2023 Accomplishments:**

- Met monthly to review curriculum content and create topic outlines for each of the three principal areas (riding/training, teaching and lungeing), and updated all curriculum as needed (PowerPoints, handouts, video).
- Started review of the core manuals: *The Classical Training of the Horse*, *The Teaching Manual*, and *The Lungeing Manual*.
- Worked with a GMO to host three programs in the new format. All were well received and well attended. These served as the model for programs scheduled in 2024.
- Met with David O'Connor to discuss participation in a coaching education opportunity offered by USEF.

**2024 Objectives:**

1. Host FEI workshop and exam.
2. Host professional development assessment and exam.
3. Host dressage seminars in all three areas: riding/training, teaching, and lungeing.
4. Host the 2025 FEI level trainers conference.
5. Continue review of manuals.
6. Develop supplemental videos.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None



## Judges Committee Report

**Chair:** Gary Rockwell, FL

**Vice Chair:** Michael Osinski, WA

**Liaison:** Sharon Vander Ziel

### **2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE**

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Jeanne McDonald, PA

Marilyn Heath, FL

Amy Swerdlin, FL\*

Janet Foy, CO

Joan Darnell, WA

Teresa Stewart, WA

Kristi Wysocki, WA

Lois Yukins, MA

\*New member(s) of the Judges Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To promote the pursuit of excellence in dressage judging.

#### **Goals:**

1. Provide educational opportunities for all levels of judges.
2. Continue to improve the training of individuals currently licensed or aspiring to be licensed judges.
3. Recognize progressive development of judges.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Provide educational opportunities for all levels of judges and L graduates through the USDF Continuing Education (CE) Programs.
2. Host the judges roundtable via Zoom in January.
3. Work with the L Program Committee to carry on with “The Judge’s Box” in *USDF Connection* to further open communication and promote educational opportunities within the area of judge education.
4. Complete revisions to online training modules and quizzes for licensed judge training programs.
5. Provide input on proposed rule changes that pertain to judges and judging tests.
6. Streamline communication between working groups involved in judging, judge training, and test writing, including equitation, freestyle, and sport horse.
7. Monitor complaints about judges submitted by USDF members.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

- Nineteen CE in Dressage Judging Programs were scheduled in 2023.
  - 1/8/2023 Introduction to 2023 tests, Region 1
  - 1/21/2023 New Tests Symposium, Region 7
  - 2/7/2023 Know the Movements (remote), Region 3
  - 2/11/2023 Know the Movements (classroom), Region 3
  - 2/12/2023 Upgrading your Judging Eye, Region 1
  - 2/18/2023 CE in Judging Freestyle, Region 9
  - 2/18/2023 Introduction to the new USEF/USDF tests, Region 6

- 2/19/2023 Dressage through the Levels, Region 9
  - 2/20/2023 Judges roundtable: New tests, Region 1
  - 3/11/2023 New Tests Symposium, Region 2
  - 3/11/2023 A look at the 2023 USEF/USDF tests, Region 2
  - 3/25/2023 CE in Judging Freestyle, Region 1
  - 4/1/2023 2023 New Tests Clinic, Region 3
  - 4/1/2023 2023 New Tests Clinic with Janet Foy, Region 1
  - 4/15/2023 CE for L grads, Region 1
  - 4/22/2023 New Tests for 2023, Region 2
  - 7/18/2023 Know the Movements (remote), Region 3
  - 9/28/2023 Training your eye to evaluate the Horse, Region 1
  - 10/17/2023 Focus on Collective Marks, Region 3
- Two USEF licensed dressage judges received their freestyle designation by attending the CE in judging freestyle in Region 9.
  - The “Changes to the Tests” Powerpoint was used in several of the programs above which helped to ensure the same information was available to members throughout the country. This presentation was also made available to GMOs as one of the GMO lecture options.
  - The Judges and L Program Committees finalized a new remote program “Focus on Collectives,” which can be presented over Zoom or in a classroom setting. This is the fourth remote presentation available to GMOs through the CE in Dressage Judging Program.
  - The Adult Programs Committee will be presenting a Zoom webinar using a condensed version of the “Know the Movements” presentation that will be geared toward instructors and members.
  - An edited video of the judges roundtable webinar held January 10 is available as a judging resource on the USDF website.
  - Two handouts on dressage seat equitation were created:
    - “Ten Tips for Judging Dressage Seat Equitation” – This has been added to the judges equitation module and posted on the website with other judging resources.
    - “Ten Tips for Riding in Dressage Equitation Classes” – This will be made available on the USDF website and through *YourDressage*.
  - The committee has provided input on USEF rule change proposals pertaining to judges.
  - Marilyn Heath contributed to “The Judge’s Box” in the July/August issue of *USDF Connection* with the article, “Merry Christmas – Santa Clause Judges.”

#### **2024 Objectives:**

1. Provide educational opportunities for all levels of judges and L graduates through the USDF CE Programs.
2. Review and update mission and goals as needed for the new committee structure.
3. Host the “Judges Roundtable” via Zoom over the winter.
4. Work with the L Program Committee to carry on with “The Judge’s Box” in *USDF Connection* to further open communication and promote educational opportunities within the area of judge education.
5. Continue to review/revise the licensed officials training programs, including quizzes and exams.
6. Provide input on proposed rule changes that pertain to judges and judging tests.
7. Streamline communication between working groups involved in judging, judge training, and test writing, including equitation, freestyle, and sport horse.

8. Monitor complaints about judges submitted by USDF members.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None

## L Program Committee Report

**Chair:** Lois Yukins, MA

**Co-Vice Chairs:** Kathy Rowse, VA and Joan Darnell, WA

**Liaison:** Sharon Vander Ziel

### **2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE**

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Debbie Rodriguez, VA\*

Lisa Schmidt, NJ

Jayne Ayers, WI

Maryal Barnett, MI

Marilyn Heath, FL

Jodi Lees, SC\*

Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez, CO

Dorie Vlatten-Schmitz, AZ

Michael Osinski, WA

\*New member(s) of the L Program Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To provide a comprehensive educational program for the entire dressage community to learn about the equestrian discipline of dressage from the judge's point of view.

#### **Goals:**

1. Provide trainers, instructors, competitors and spectators insight into the evaluative techniques of judging dressage.
2. Prepare and evaluate candidates who wish to pursue entry into the USEF 'r' Judge Training Program.
3. Provide continuing education for licensed judges and L graduates.
4. Select and provide teaching materials to L faculty members.

#### **2023 Objectives**

1. Continue to develop and enhance the USDF L Education Program website to supplement what is presented in the classroom setting and to provide continuing education for L graduates and USEF-licensed dressage judges.
2. Work with the Judges Committee to carry on with "The Judge's Box" in *USDF Connection* to further open communication and promote educational opportunities.
3. Complete updates to the USDF L Education Program course material, presentation, and website to reflect changes to the USEF dressage rules and 2023 dressage tests.
4. Increase communication with competition managers to promote the importance of their support of the Part 2 sessions.
5. Host a Zoom meeting for USDF L Education Program organizers to assist new organizers and share ideas and concerns.
6. Host a Zoom meeting for L candidates and graduates to answer questions and listen to suggestions to enhance the program.
7. Continue to review the USDF L Education Program process to ensure the quality of candidates applying to the USEF 'r' Judge Training Program.
8. Select appropriate L faculty candidates to start the apprentice program.

## **2023 Accomplishments:**

- The L Program Committee hosted two winter webinars:
  - The L graduates and candidates roundtable was held January 12. The attendance was large with over 150 L candidates and L graduates.
  - The L program organizers roundtable was held February 6. This was a more intimate group of current L program organizers and any GMO members interested in hosting a USDF L Education Program. There were 25 in attendance.
  - The L Education Program presentations, course material, and online modules have been updated and revised for the 2023 test cycle.
- There are 21 L Education Program sessions scheduled to date for 2023. Programs are being hosted by:
  - Rocky Mountain Dressage Society, Part 1, Region 5
  - Central New York Dressage and Combined Training, Part 1, Region 8
  - GLASS-ED (MI), Part 1, Region 2
  - STRIDE (FL) is hosting two Part 2s, Region 3
  - South Carolina Dressage and Combined Training, Part 2, Region 3
  - Oklahoma Dressage Society/Central Plains Dressage Society/Kansas Dressage and Eventing Association, Part 2, Region 9
  - New England Dressage Association, Part 2, Region 8
  - Central Texas Dressage Society, Part 1, Region 9
- Five final exams were scheduled in 2023. Exams were held in Regions 3, 8 (two exams), and 9 (two exams).
- There are 344 L graduates (including L graduates with distinction) that have completed their requirements to appear on the USDF list of “current” L graduates.
- Dolly Hannon completed her L faculty apprenticeship and has been added to the list of approved L faculty.
- Anne Cizaldo, Judy Downer, and Kari McClain are currently working through the apprentice requirements and should complete them in 2024.
- The L Program Committee Zoom meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2023. .
- The L program faculty continues to work with staff to update L Education Program course material used in classroom presentations.
- Jayne Ayres and Marilyn Heath contributed to “The Judge’s Box” of *USDF Connection*.
  - In the January/ February issue, Marilyn Heath authored “A Three Flight Tasting Session,” which promoted the remote “Taste of the L Program.”
  - In the May/June issue, Jayne Ayres authored “All About Travers and Renvers.”
- Members of the L faculty worked with members of the Judges Committee to finalize “Focus on Collectives,” a new remote continuing education program that is approved for L graduate continuing education.
- The L Education Part 1 Facebook Group has 1,300 members.
- The USDF L Candidates and Graduate Facebook Group (closed group) has 638 members.

## **2024 Objectives:**

1. Continue to develop and enhance the USDF L Education Program website to supplement what is presented in the classroom setting and to provide continuing education for L graduates and USEF-licensed dressage judges.
2. Work with the Judges Committee to carry on with “The Judge’s Box” in *USDF Connection* to further open communication and promote educational opportunities.
3. Continue communication with competition managers to promote the importance of their support of the Part 2 sessions.

4. Host a Zoom meeting for L participants and candidates to answer questions and listen to suggestions to enhance the program.
5. Continue to review the USDF L Education Program process to ensure the quality of candidates applying to the USEF 'r' Judge Training Program.
6. Select appropriate L faculty candidates to start the apprentice program.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None

## Technical Delegates Committee Report

**Chair:** Jean Kraus, MO

**Liaison:** Bonnie Barr-Briggs

### ***2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 28 – December 3 Omaha, NE***

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Michelle King, VA

Angela Goodwin-Volpert, IN

Cheryl Tobey, GA

Dianne Stanley, FL \*

Susan Lang, KS

Kaye Phaneuf, OR

Doris North, CA

Paul Cormier, MA

Marilyn Kulifay, TX

Carolyn VandenBerg, TX

\*New member(s) of the Technical Delegates Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To provide education and an organized voice for technical delegates (TDs).

#### **Goals:**

1. Provide educational programs for TDs and aspiring TDs.
2. Review United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) rules and rule change proposals.
3. Establish regular contact with all TDs through regional coordinators.
4. Establish a dialog between the Competition Management Committee and the Technical Delegates Committee in order to encourage show managers to use TDs as a resource.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Continue our efforts to grow the ranks of licensed dressage TDs with help from the Veronica Holt Fund.
2. Continue to build our TD public relations and communications efforts to educate competitors, judges, and competition management about the role of the TD.
3. Continue to find the best approaches to keeping TDs as informed as possible.
4. Continue in our efforts to build communication between TDs and competition management.
5. Continue to develop new, and updating existing, educational learning modules.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

- The 2023 recipient of the Veronica Holt Fund, which provides funds for the education for TD applicants or TDs going for promotion, was awarded to Stephanie Mason from New Jersey.
- The TD Resource Management Working Group has worked to keep the TD resource document current. The document has been maintained with quarterly updates.
- The TD Committee PR Working Group has worked for a year and a half on recruitment of potential TDs. This paid off when we held two apprentice clinics with excellent numbers and generated a waitlist for the next clinic.
- Hosted a USDF virtual TD townhall meeting with 60 TDs attending.
- Continued to utilize the TD communication tree where committee members from each region reach out with important information to the TDs in their region.
- A “Para-equestrian Guide for TDs” has been developed and is now posted.

- A think tank session was held to explore the effectiveness of TD education and resources and explore possible options for improvements.
- A “TD Field Guide for Measurement” has been approved by the USEF and will be distributed to TDs.
- A competition management survey of TDs was sent to competition managers in order to provide feedback on TD effectiveness in the field. Valuable information was derived.
- A dressage judges survey has been sent out and the expected responses will allow us to shape TD education.
- The committee members reviewed all of our TD education/information content that is posted on the TD page of the USDF website in order to make sure that all items are current.
- There are learning modules under construction and new versions of the “Dressage Equipment Checkers Guides” are being created.

**2024 Objectives:** To be determined at the committee’s closed fall meeting.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None



# **Activities Council Committee Reports**

## Adult Programs Committee Report

**Chair:** Holly Hilliard, FL

**Liaison:** Sarah Delahanty

### **2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE**

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Jill Ekis, PA \*

Ken Levy, IN

Kelly Vallandingham, MN

Gwen Ka'awaloa, CO

Frances Haupt, OR

Valerie Goodman, CA

Sarah Denham, TX \*

Betty Beebe, TX \*

\*New member(s) of the Adult Programs Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To encourage, increase and enrich adult participation in dressage by providing educational opportunities and recognition of achievement.

#### **Goals:**

1. Provide concepts for new adult education programs.
2. Increase the number of and participation in USDF supported adult programs.
3. Improve communication and networking within and between regions, GMOs and the Adult Programs Committee to increase support of and participation in adult education.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Increase awareness of the GMO Education Initiative (GEI) and grant opportunities.
2. Increase awareness of USDF education opportunities.
3. Develop topics for virtual education series.
4. Work with GMOs to identify education chairs.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

- Developed and executed a GMO outreach to determine how best to assist GMO members and promote programs.
- Submitted a list of suggested topics and possible speakers for the 2023 convention education sessions.
- Completed revision of GEI guidelines.
- Requested addition of education chair to GMO roster of officers form.
- Virtual education event "The Purpose of the Movements" is scheduled for October 24, 2023. At the time of this report there are 337 registrants.
- To date, seven GEI applications for programs beginning April 1, 2023, have been accepted and approved. One of these programs will take place in October 2023. Regions represented are 1, 2, 5, and 9.

- The following table is a schedule of the programs approved for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and their status:

<b>GMO</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Event Title</b>	<b>Event Dates</b>	<b>Riders</b>	<b>Auditors</b>
Three Rivers Equestrian Association	1- PA	TREA New Test Clinic	April 1, 2023	–	34
Grand Valley Dressage Society	5-CO	Judge's View of the New Tests and a Ride-A-Test Clinic	April 15-16, 2023	8	14
Eastern Iowa Dressage and Eventing	2-WI	Riding the New Tests with Anne Cizadlo	April 29, 2023	–	44
Tucson Dressage Club	5-AZ	Debbie McDonald Clinic – "Through the Levels"	May 20-21, 2023	–	79
Oklahoma Dressage Society	9-OK	2023 Tests Plus Creating a Musical Freestyle	April 22-23, 2023	–	54
Central Texas Dressage Society	9 -TX	Symposium with Rachel Saavedra	June 3-4, 2023	8	10
Fort Worth Dressage Club	9-TX	Fort Worth Dressage Club Adult Camp	October 20-22, 2023		

- A total of \$3,896.78 in GEI grant funds have been awarded so far this year.

**2024 Objectives:** To be determined at the committee's closed fall meeting.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None

## Awards Committee Report

**Chair:** Amy Swerdlin, FL

**Liaison:** Cristen Brown

### **2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE**

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Jessie Ginsburg, VA

Deborah Garris, IL

Jan Brons, FL

Mickayla Frederick, IA

Marie Maloney, KS

Cecilia Cox, NM

Jo Renn, WA

Doris North, CA

Diane Holston, MA

Elizabeth Clifton, MS

\*There are no new members of the Awards Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To encourage participation in dressage by recognizing excellence and rewarding progressive achievement.

#### **Goals:**

1. Organize and provide awards for horse of the year, freestyle, junior/young rider, adult amateur, vintage cup, all-breeds, performance certificates, individual rider awards, DSHB horse of the year, and materiale horse of the year.
2. Review existing awards requirements and programs.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Design lapel pin for Para Dressage Athlete Award.
2. Continue discussion regarding a potential Born in the USA Year-End Award.
3. Analyze the possibility of enhancing the Horse Performance Certificate Program.
4. Evaluate additional award options for senior riders.
5. Explore marketing opportunities to promote the USDF Awards Program.
6. Confirm the award requirements provided in the *USDF Member Guide* are clear and up to date.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

- Analyzed statistics of current USDF Awards Program and discussed any potential changes.
- Finalized design of the Para Dressage Athlete Rider Award lapel pin.
- Created a tutorial featuring how to verify a horse's eligibility for USDF All-Breed Awards.
- Promoted awareness regarding the USDF consecutive level rule through USDF eNews and *USDF Connection*.
- Promoted the new "USDF Historical Awards Report for Breeders" on *YourDressage*.
- Improved visibility of the "USDF Awards Resource Guide" on the "Awards" drop down menu of the USDF website.
- Discussed enhancing the salute gala and annual awards banquet book and *USDF Yearbook*.
- Discussed implementing a symbol to recognize horses that are ranked in the USDF Year-End Awards that are born/bred in the United States.

- Agreed to design a stall plaque that will be proposed as an additional award within the USDF Horse Performance Certificate Program.
- Supported the Sport Horse Committee's proposal for an Adult Amateur and Junior Young Rider Handler Year-End Award.

**2024 Objectives:**

1. Finalize design and draft proposal for an additional award per level in the Horse Performance Certificate Program.
2. Draft proposals for a national level and FEI level "Born in the USA" Year-End Award perpetual trophy.
3. Generate online tutorials of relevant USDF Awards Program subject matter.
4. Explore opportunities to promote USDF Awards Programs.
5. Evaluate additional award options for senior riders.
6. Examine possible award options for year-end award champion riders.
7. Review and evaluate any possible changes to the current awards program's requirements and prizes.
8. Confirm award requirements provided in the *USDF Member Guide* are clear and up to date.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None

## FEI Youth Committee Report

**Chair:** Roberta Williams, FL

**Liaison:** Sarah Delahanty

### **2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE**

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Deborah DelGiorno, DE  
Roz Kinstler, FL  
Elizabeth Molloy, GA  
Nancy Gorton, MO  
Joan Clay, CO

Nicki Grandia, WA  
Ann Boehning, CA  
Roberta Carleton, CT  
Marsha Lewis, TX \*

Advisor – Laura Roberts, USEF

\*New member(s) of the FEI Youth Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To develop educational opportunities and international competition experiences for riders, ages 12-21, who ride at the FEI sanctioned Pony, Children, Junior, and Young Rider levels.

#### **Goals:**

1. Select and provide teams for the North American Youth Championships (NAYC).
2. Promote team spirit and competition among riders.
3. Provide clinics and educational opportunities.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Monitor the progression of FEI youth and their participation in the NAYC and the Festival of Champions.
2. Continue to identify clinic sites in response to demand.
3. Oversee NAYC Program.
4. Provide feedback on the NAYC qualifying calendar.
5. Provide input into the NAYC selection procedures.
6. Review and revise the *NAYC Handbook and Guidelines* for regional coordinators.
7. Create guidelines for chefs d'equipe.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

##### **FEI Youth Clinics**

- Eight FEI Youth Clinics have been scheduled in Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. George Williams, Lilo Fore, and Sabine Schut-Kery are the clinicians for these clinics.
  - **Region 1:** November 4-5; George Williams; Hilltop Farm, Inc.
    - *Rider application deadline: October 2*
  - **Region 2:** September 9-10; George Williams; Renaissance Equestrian Center
    - *Received 12 applications.*

- **Region 3:** January 20-21, 2024; Lilo Fore; Noble Steed LLC
  - *Rider application deadline: December 7*
- **Region 4:** September 2-3; George Williams; Providence Farm
  - *Received 15 applications.*
- **Region 5:** September 16-17; George Williams; Nighthawk Equestrian Center
  - *Received 8 applications.*
- **Region 6:** November 4-5; Sabine Schut Kery; DevonWood Equestrian Centre
  - *Rider application deadline: October 2*
- **Region 7:** October 28-29; Sabine Schut-Kery; Starr Vaughn Equestrian Center
  - *Rider application deadline: September 25*
- **Region 8:** June 10-11; Sabine Schut-Kery; Weatogue Stables
  - *Received 15 applications.*
- **Region 9:** November 18-19; George Williams; Paragon Farm
  - *Rider application deadline: October 22*

**NAYC**

- The date and location of the 2024 NAYC have been announced. The event is scheduled for July 30-August 4, 2024, in Traverse City, MI.
- The 2023 NAYC was held August 8-13 in Traverse City, MI. This was the third time this competition has been held at this facility.
  - A special thanks to all the volunteers and team at Traverse City who made this event as special as it was.
  - This year marks the inaugural inclusion of the U25 division administered by USEF.
  - Overall, the event ran very smoothly. Traverse City is a lovely facility and the dressage competitors enjoyed the good atmosphere and accommodating management. Competitors were positive about returning to the venue in the future.

**Statistics for the number applying versus the number representing each region as a team or individual:**

**Juniors:**

	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Applied	Team	Applied	Team	Applied	Team	Applied	Team	Applied	Team	Applied	Team
Reg 1	6	3	12	4	7	NA	9	4	11	4	10	4
Reg 2	6	3	15	4	11	NA	14	4	11	4	9	4
Reg 3	14	4	9	4	5	NA	9	3	4	2	8	4
Reg 4	6	4	8	4	1	NA	4	3	3	3	3	2
Reg 5	6	0	4	0	2	NA	7	3	7	4	4	3
Reg 6	6	1	4	1	4	NA	3	2	4	0	6	3
Reg 7	4	1	4	1	5	NA	7	4	8	4	5	3
Reg 8	10	4	7	4	4	NA	11	4	5	4	6	3
Reg 9	7	1	11	4	9	NA	10	4	4	1	7	0
	65	21	74	26	48	NA	74	31	57	26	58	26

**Young Riders:**

	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Applied	Team	Applied	Team	Applied	Team	Applied	Team	Applied	Team	Applied	Team
Reg 1	11	4	12	4	7	NA	6	4	6	1	7	1
Reg 2	8	4	5	2	7	NA	10	4	6	2	7	1
Reg 3	12	4	16	4	7	NA	7	4	7	2	8	4
Reg 4	3	3	6	3	5	NA	8	4	5	1	5	2
Reg 5	1	0	2	0	1	NA	3	1	5	2	5	4
Reg 6	3	0	5	2	3	NA	4	2	2	1	2	0
Reg 7	4	2	7	1	8	NA	7	4	8	4	9	2
Reg 8	9	4	6	4	5	NA	9	2	6	3	6	3
Reg 9	0	0	1	0	1	NA	4	3	2	2	2	2
	51	21	60	20	44	NA	58	28	47	18	51	19

- The placings for the NAYC were as follows:
  - Young Rider Team
    - Gold – Region 3 with 212.353 points
    - Silver – Regions 4/7 with 203.118 points
    - Bronze – Regions 1/2/9 with 197.824 points
  - Junior Team
    - Gold – Regions 6/4 with 204.575 points
    - Silver – Region 3 with 204.364 points
    - Bronze – Region 8 with 203.787 points
  - Young Rider Individual
    - Gold – Mary Claire Piller (Region 3)/Caterina with 70.147%
    - Silver – Celsiana William (Region 3)/Prima Ballerina with 69.912%
    - Bronze – Kat Fuqua (Region 3)/Dreamgirl with 69.294%
  - Junior Individual
    - Gold – Sienna Rowe (Region 1)/Lightfire Just Do It with 70.676%
    - Silver – Madison Sumner (Region 3)/Briar with 69.382%
    - Bronze – Norah Wright (Region 6)/Baccos Do Retiro with 69.382%
  - Young Rider Freestyle
    - Gold – Mary Claire Piller (Region 3)/Caterina with 73.800%
    - Silver – Kat Fuqua (Region 3)/Dreamgirl with 72.590%
    - Bronze – Celsiana William (Region 3)/Prima Ballerina with 72.390%
  - Junior Freestyle
    - Gold – Madison Sumner (Region 3)/Briar with 73.540%
    - Silver – Sienna Rowe (Region 1)/Lightfire Just Do It with 73.320%
    - Bronze – Allison Berger (Region 2)/Delacure with 72.915%
- The winner of the Fiona Baan Pursuit of Excellence Award was Mary Claire Piller, Region 3, with her mount Caterina.
- The winner of the Amanda Johnson Pursuit of Excellence Award was Sienna Rowe, Region 1, with her mount Lightfire Just Do It.
- The winner of the Patsy Albers Award was Denielle Gallagher for Canada.



- The 2024 qualifying period began on July 25, 2023. It is anticipated that the qualifying period will finish a minimum of seven days prior to the nominated entry date.
- The 2023 Festival of Champions competition was still held as scheduled on August 21-27, 2023, at HITS Chicago at Lamplight Equestrian Center in Wayne, IL.
- The USDF Executive Board voted to remove the Young Rider and Junior team tests as regional championship classes, effective for the 2025 regional championships. The riders who qualify via Young Rider team test in PSG Jr/YR championship class and Junior team test in Third Level Jr/YR championship class will be allowed to compete at the regional championships as long as equivalencies remain the same. This de-incentivizes participation by NAYC youth and reduces an avenue of qualifying for NAYC in the regional championships.

**2024 Objectives:**

1. Monitor the progression of FEI youth and their participation in the NAYC and the Festival of Champions.
2. Help facilitate the anticipated addition of the Childrens division at NAYC in the future.
3. Continue to identify clinic sites in response to demand.
4. Oversee NAYC Program.
5. Provide feedback on the NAYC qualifying calendar.
6. Provide input into the NAYC selection procedures.
7. Review and revise the *NAYC Handbook and Guidelines* for regional coordinators.
8. Create guidelines for chefs d'equipe.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None

## Regional Championships Committee Report

**Chair:** Angela Goodwin-Volpert, IN  
**Vice Chair:** Janine Malone, NC

**Liaison:** Lacy Jinks

### ***2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE***

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Anne Kuhns, KY

Anneliese Vogt-Harber, GA

Roberta Williams, FL

Jean Kraus, MO

Heather Miles, NM

Nadine Schwartzman, ID

Kevin Reinig, CA

Camille Kopicik, NY

Angela Rice, MA

Carolyn VandenBerg, TX

\*There are no new members of the Regional Championships Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To promote and recognize the pursuit of excellence by providing a showcase competition that meets established quality standards for riders within each USDF region.

#### **Goals:**

1. Establish and update guidelines for qualifying as needed.
2. Educate championship management.
3. Provide recognition and rewards.
4. Promote the championships.
5. Increase the number of participants.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Review regional championship surveys to determine compliance with rules and requirements and to identify areas for future improvements.
2. Implement a more thorough review of regional championship prize lists to ensure compliance with requirements and fair competition.
3. Review and amend the host site application.
4. Review rules and requirements for regional championships.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

- Reviewed regional championships surveys to identify areas for future improvements.
- Examined process for regional championship prize list reviews.
- Reviewed the 2024 host site application.
- Reviewed and approved the 2023 Regional Championship Program Rules with recommended revisions from the Executive Board.
- Reviewed and approved the “Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Championship Program Rules” for 2024.
- Reviewed and recommended revised freestyle music rules for the 2024 regional championships to the Executive Board.

- Reviewed participation statistics regarding the FEI Junior and Young Rider team championships at regional championships and made recommendation to the Executive Board to discontinue these two championship classes effective 2025.
- Reviewed and approved “Instructions for Award Ceremonies” for 2023.
- Created and approved a “Competitor Quick Reference Guide for Award Ceremonies” at regional championships.

**2024 Objectives:**

1. Review regional championship surveys to determine compliance with rules and requirements, and to identify areas for future improvements.
2. Review and amend the host site application.
3. Review rules and requirements for regional championships.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None

## Sport Horse Committee Report

**Chair:** Kristi Wysocki, WA

**Vice Chair:** Regina Milliken, LA

**Co-Liaisons:** Bonnie Barr-Briggs and Taylor Chism

### **2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE**

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Janine Malone, NC

Christine Smith, VA

Melanie Sloyer, PA

Megan Dischler, WI

Susan Mandas, OH

Deborah Davenport, KS

Anne Sparks, NM

Melissa Creswick, CA

Kathy Hickerson, NH

Advisor – Christine Traurig, CA

Advisor – Natalie DiBerardinis, MD

\*There are no new members of the Sport Horse Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To foster and advance the breeding and development of the highest quality dressage sport horses and to promote a strong foundation for the dressage sport horse development pipeline in the United States.

#### **Goals:**

1. To educate breeders, owners, buyers, handlers, trainers, and judges about the ideals of both dressage sport horse prospects and breeding stock.
2. Encourage and acknowledge the efforts of USDF member breeders in producing the highest quality dressage sport horse.
3. Provide dressage sport horse competition management, owners, and breeders with competition guidelines and opportunities.
4. Promote USDF horse recordings and tracking of competition results.
5. Nurture and develop future generations for the dressage sport horse breeding industry.
6. Review and update all proposed USDF sport horse score sheets and instruction documents.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Review and reformat the USDF Breeders Championship Series (USDFBCS) rules and applications for 2024.
2. Host a USDF Sport Horse Seminar.
3. Host a USDF Sport Horse Prospect Development Forum.
4. Award first presentation of new Breeder of Distinction Awards; Sapphire, Ruby, and Diamond Levels.
5. Review the tagline currently used in ads for the USDFBCS.
6. Continue discussions regarding materiale class judging concerns.
  - a) develop a materiale judges' guideline
  - b) possible educational requirements

**2023 Accomplishments:**

- Completed the review and reformat the USDFBCS rules for 2024.
- A USDF Handler Clinic at Hilltop Farm was held April 1-2, 2023, with 16 participants.
- The Sport Horse Seminar was held in conjunction with USEF/USDF DSHB Judge Training Program and Clinic on July 1-3, 2023, at DG Bar. A total of 20 people attended some portion of this event.
- The Sport Horse Prospect Development Forum will be held at Sonnenberg Farm in Sherwood, OR on October 21-22, 2023.
- A half day classroom session on judging materiale classes will be held on November 8, 2023, as an addition to the scheduled judge clinic that will be held in Lexington, KY.
- The new Breeder of Distinction Awards Levels (Ruby, Sapphire, and Platinum-Diamond) will be presented at the salute gala and annual awards banquet held during the 2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention on December 2, 2023. The application deadline for this new award is October 15<sup>th</sup>, but as of the date of this report, the following number of applications for these awards have been received:
  - Ruby – 11
  - Sapphire – 7
  - Platinum Diamond – 6
- Approved applications for 8 USDFBCS Finals to be held in 2023 (North Central, North West, Mid-West, South East, Southern, North East, Rocky Mountain, and East Coast Series). The Mid-West Series Final was cancelled, but the remaining 7 finals were held.
- A featured education session at the Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention will focus on conformation and will be presented by committee chair Kristi Wysocki.

**2024 Objectives:**

1. Host a USDF Sport Horse Seminar in conjunction with a USEF/USDF DSHB Training Program and Clinic.
2. Host a USDF Youth Sport Horse Breeder Seminar.
3. Host a USDF Handler Clinic.
4. Continue dressage judges education for materiale classes.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None

## National Youth Programs Committee Report

**Chair:** Roz Kinstler, FL

**Liaison:** Sarah Delahanty

### ***2023 Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention, November 29 – December 2 Omaha, NE***

#### **2023 Committee Members:**

Jennifer Koch, PA\*

Kathy Rowse, VA

Laurie Moore, MI

Elizabeth Molloy, GA\*

Janie Pride, GA

Roberta Williams, FL

Julie Barringer-Richers, CO

Lendon Gray, NY

Jessica Fan, TX

\*New member(s) for the National Youth Programs Committee for 2023.

**Mission:** To promote dressage to young equestrians while providing for the future of the sport.

#### **Goals:**

1. Provide educational opportunities.
2. Provide recognition programs.
3. Encourage and increase youth membership and participation.
4. Promote youth sportmanship.

#### **2023 Objectives:**

1. Explore opportunities to connect with youth.
2. Explore opportunities to connect with youth instructors.
3. Continue to promote USDF Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Finals.
4. Continue outreach to GMOs to include youth in their programs.
5. Promote and encourage participation in the Youth Dressage Rider Recognition Pin Program, Shining Star Sportsmanship Award, and the Dressage Spirit Award.
6. Continue to publish youth eNewsletter in order to keep youth members informed of programs offered.
7. Explore opportunities that engage the younger generation in the governance structure of USDF and the sport.
8. Explore partnering opportunities with other youth organizations.
9. Plan 2025 Young Rider Graduate Program.
10. Implement the Youth Outreach Clinic Program.

#### **2023 Accomplishments:**

- The Dressage Spirit Award was implemented in 2022 and 5 individuals received the award this year.
  - Addy Batcheller, Little Rock AR
  - Peyton Burch, Fort Madison, IA
  - Adalynn Nelson, Marion, IA

- Jackson Williams, Marion, IA
- Carolyn Woodring, Cedar Rapids, IA
- There are no Shining Star recipients for this year.
- USDF/IDA National Quiz Challenge
  - Grand Prize Winner: Breanna Gemmell, Averett University. Breanna was the winner of the Upper Training Level Division.
  - The Level winners were:
    - Introductory Level – Liliah Ashtyani, Rutgers University
    - Lower Training Level – Miley Holtzman, Virginia Tech
    - Upper Training – Sami Scigouski, Miami University
- Regional nominations brought to the USDF Executive Board for consideration for the USEF Youth Sportsman’s Award included Addition Grosz (Region 3, FL), Addy Batcheller, Region 9, AR), and Ryan Mosqueda (Region 7, CA). Ryan Mosqueda was selected for USDF to put forward for the USEF Youth Sportsman’s Award.
- The committee received three nominations for USDF Youth Volunteer of the Year: Madelyn McClure, Genevieve Rohner, and Alice Burley. USDF named Alice Burley as the 2023 USDF Youth Volunteer of the Year.
- There are five recipients for the USDF Youth Convention Scholarship: Marley McCourt, Mackenzie Brown, Ryleigh Koch, Harper and Hayden Kane (splitting one scholarship between siblings)
- Two Youth Outreach Clinics are currently being organized for Regions 4 and 7.
- The “Youth Corner” youth eNews continues to be released quarterly to all youth members, regional coordinators, regional directors, all members of the National Youth Programs Committee, as well as the GMO youth contacts.
- The 2023 USDF Youth Recognition Pin Program saw a slight increase in participation from 2022.

Region	2023			2022							2021					
Year	1st	2nd	6th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
1	2	2	1	5	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0
2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
8	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
10 (Bermuda)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	13	4	1	10	2	0	1	1	1	1	7	0	1	3	2	1

- 2023 Youth Dressage Rider Recognition Pin recipients:

**First Year Recipients:**

Kirsty Alexander; Woodville, WA  
Addy Batcheller; Little Rock, AR  
Claudia Foushee; Durham, NC  
Darian Kauk; Lincoln, NE  
Walker Lefkowitz; Las Vegas, NV  
Isabelle Montes; Winchester, KY  
Adalynn Nelson; Marion, IA  
Teagan Niles; Stafford, VA  
Finley Peterson; Woodstock, VT  
Natalie Porto; Cooperstown, NY  
Britney Richwine; Jamestown, IN  
Emma Szachnieski; Saint Peters, MO  
Carlee Jean Turner; Powell Butte, OR

**Second Year Recipients:**

Lauren Anderson; Effort, PA  
Harper Kane; Cornelius, NC  
Hayden Kane; Cornelius, NC  
Margaret Raffo; Cooperstown, NY

**Sixth Year Recipient:**

Gabriella Escobar; Mosely, VA

**2024 Objectives:** To be determined at the committee's closed fall meeting.

**Items to come before the Executive Board:** None